

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/624,823

Examiner

ALEX NOGUEROLA

Applicant(s)

HODGES ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/11/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/981,385.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/04/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other IDS of 4/25/2006.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

a) On page 1 of the specification, in line 3 between "2001," and "which" the following has been inserted -- now U.S. Patent No. 6,960,289 ,--

Authorization for the following examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with George Xixis on November 16, 2006.

b) Claim 1, line 1: at the beginning of the line the following has been inserted
-- An electrochemical biosensor comprising, (1) --;

c) Claim 1, line 1: "A" has been replaced with -- a --;

d) Claim 1, line 5: between “electrode” and “are” the following has been inserted

-- face each other, --;

e) Claim 1, line 6: between “planar” and “and” the following has been inserted

--, -- (a comma).

f) Claim 1, line 11: “microliters.” has been replaced with -- microliters; and --; and

g) Claim 1: insert new line 12: -- (2) means for measuring from cell current the diffusion coefficient of a redox mediator in the cell and independently its concentration. –

Support for the amendment may be found in the specification on page 12, first full paragraph and page 19, first paragraph.

2. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: Diebold as modified by Straus, Kanezawa, Enthone, Carter, and Bohs does not have means for measuring from cell current the diffusion coefficient of a redox mediator in the cell and independently its concentration. This means thus “... compensates for variations in

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temperature and viscosity. The concentration so measured is independent of variations in haematocrit and other substances which affect the diffusion coefficient of the reduced form of the redox species.” See page 6, third full paragraph of the specification. There is no suggestion in the combination of references to also measure the diffusion coefficient. Diebold appears to teach away from measuring the diffusion coefficient. Diebold incorporates by reference White '516 as an example of a suitable measuring means or algorithm. See col. 13:09-26. White assumes a constant diffusion coefficient. See col. 01:48 – col. 02:26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-6 are allowed.

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALEX NOGUEROLA whose telephone number is (571) 272-1343. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, NAM NGUYEN can be reached on (571) 272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Alex Noguera
Primary Examiner
AU 1753

November 17, 2006